

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2004

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 87**

**Introduced by Senator Torlakson**  
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Firebaugh)

June 10, 2004

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 87—Relative to soccer in California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 87, as amended, Torlakson. Soccer in California.

This measure would, among other things, declare the Legislature's wish to honor soccer players, teams, and coaches from the state and to recognize the overall contribution that the sport makes to the well-being of Californians.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, With a diverse fan base, unique mix of American  
2 and international stars on the professional field, and countless  
3 youth and recreational teams throughout the state, soccer is the  
4 21st century sport that represents inclusiveness and many different  
5 cultures that now thrive in today's everchanging society regardless  
6 of socioeconomic status; and

7 WHEREAS, Major league soccer teams include players from  
8 all six international confederations and more than 31 countries  
9 from around the globe and feature a diverse mix of domestic and  
10 international players with young Central American players, such  
11 as the Los Angeles Galaxy's Carlos Ruiz, the MetroStars' Amado  
12 Guevara, and New England's Jose Cancela contributing their  
13 exceptional talent and star quality to their teams; and

1 WHEREAS, Soccer is played by more than 240 million  
2 individuals worldwide, with 18 million players in the United  
3 States and 2 million players in California; and

4 WHEREAS, Over 700,000 children play youth soccer in  
5 California and 49 percent of them are girls; and

6 WHEREAS, Soccer players of all ages play at schools, parks,  
7 and urban fields throughout California, and win countless local,  
8 regional, state, and national championships; and

9 WHEREAS, The Cal-North and Cal-South State Associations  
10 collectively register more players with US Youth Soccer than  
11 organizations in any other state in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, The Diablo Valley Soccer Club provides a  
13 comprehensive professional training program for youth soccer  
14 players and has won numerous State Cup Championships; and

15 WHEREAS, The Jesuit High School Marauders ~~boys~~ boys'  
16 soccer team, located in Sacramento, and the Montgomery High  
17 School Lady Vikings team, located in Santa Rosa, finished the fall  
18 2003 season ranked number one in the country; and

19 WHEREAS, Paul Rose, the head coach of the Jesuit High  
20 School Marauders boys' soccer team, was named the "Coach of  
21 the Year" by the National Soccer Coaches Association of  
22 America; and

23 WHEREAS, Three of the 10 college soccer players named as  
24 the "2003 Collegiate National Players of the Year" by the  
25 National Soccer Coaches Association of America are from  
26 California, including Karin Sullivan of Westmont College,  
27 Fabricio Codeceira of Fresno Pacific University, and Ashley  
28 DeAlejandro of Long Beach City College; and

29 *WHEREAS, The California Storm of the Women's Premier*  
30 *Soccer League (WPSL), the only national amateur stand-alone*  
31 *soccer league for women, has been based in Sacramento for over*  
32 *15 years, are the 1999 and 2002 Women's Premier Soccer League*  
33 *Champions, have over 13 former professional players from the*  
34 *now defunct Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA), and are*  
35 *sending seven of their players to the 2004 Olympic Games; and*

36 WHEREAS, California is the home of the 2004 Men's College  
37 Cup at the Home Depot Center; and

38 WHEREAS, The United States Soccer Federation National  
39 Team's training headquarters is located in the City of Carson; and

1 WHEREAS, The last three Major League Soccer  
2 Championships have been won by California teams—the Los  
3 Angeles Galaxy and the San Jose Earthquakes; and

4 WHEREAS, The San Jose Earthquakes of Major League  
5 Soccer are the 2003 Major League Soccer Cup champions; and

6 WHEREAS, Landon Donovan of the San Jose Earthquakes was  
7 the 2003 Major League Soccer Cup “Most Valuable Player”; and

8 WHEREAS, California is home to the largest Latino  
9 soccer-playing population in the United States with 49 percent of  
10 the total number of Latino players; and

11 WHEREAS, All Californians are proud of the tremendous  
12 achievements of these teams and the personal character of these  
13 talented individuals, as well as the numerous contributions that  
14 countless soccer players have made in their own communities; and

15 WHEREAS, Soccer at all levels helps develop teamwork,  
16 self-discipline, initiative, confidence, and leadership skills, while  
17 promoting cultural understanding and awareness; now, therefore,  
18 be it

19 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
20 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature wishes to honor the  
21 accomplishments of ~~its~~ *the* players, teams, and coaches from  
22 California and to recognize the overall contribution that soccer  
23 makes to the health and well-being of Californians of all ages and  
24 families of all backgrounds; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages its members, as well  
26 as organizations, businesses, and individuals, to sponsor, attend,  
27 and support soccer events throughout the state that are  
28 informative, fun, and result in a number of Californians becoming  
29 more actively involved in their communities; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
31 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

